Mr. Les Payne
Newsroom
Newsday
550 Stewart Ave.,
Garden City, N.Y.11350

8/25/76

Dear Les,

While on my early-morning walk I thougnt some about your last evening's call.

I think you were giving me advice, were reluctant to let it appear that way, and that it was very good advice. About the Mann acts.

Before I go into that, if there comes a time when you can give me advice, don't, please, feel the need for indirection or subtlety. And if you think I'm making a mistake, please be blunt about it.

I go at a pace that gives me too little time for thinking. The thinking of others, whether or not one agrees with it, is always helpful.

In retrospect I believe you were telling me I should have hit it straight out with Mann. If so, your are correct. There may be a question about how much to lay out straight and in how much detail but on the fact of being in touch, on many scores, good approach.

One we did not discuss is what was in my mind when I asked you if you know anything about his personal reputation. It really involves fairness to him.

So, while I can't afford to phone him I can and will take the time to write him. I'd appreciate his address. I think you said you have it.

I have already written a friend who may know something about his personal rep.

There are advantages to writing. One is that it constitutes a form of notice. Another, when these kinds of psychopaths are involved, is that while it does not provide the most effective kind of confrontation it does provide what they must meet if Mann wants to learn what he is getting into.

I've completed the drafts of the affidavits I was working on and now must read and correct them, a long job. This is the King/FOIA case. I believe it will be effective with the judge and in the record. These guys have to appeal or cave in. I don't think they are ready to spread.

Thanks and best,